REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 1-9, 15-19, 21, 23, 24 and 26 under 35USC103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohashi (US 5,481,595) and further in view of Kowalski (US 5,095,503) and Itoh (US 6,205,427).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 10, 20 and 25 under 35USC103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohashi, Kowalski and Itoh and further in view of Macor (US 5,901,222) and Schwelb (US 5,950,123).
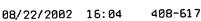
Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 12 and 13 under 35USC103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohashi, Kowalski and Itoh and further in view of Lemaire (US 5,444,768).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of Claims 14, 22 under 35USC103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohaski, Kowalski and Itoh and further in view of Argyroudis (US 5,748,104).

Ohashi

Ohashi discloses a portable telephone which comprises a random access audio memory having a plurality of audio storage locations. The portable telephone further has a data memory having a plurality of data storage locations that are used to store telephone numbers that can be recalled and used in an auto-dialer function to initiate telephone calls in the portable telephone. Each audio storage location can be linked, by a controller, to one of the data storage locations. The user of the telephone can scroll through the data storage locations and each will be displayed on a display, in turn. If any of the data storage locations is linked with an audio storage location, then the controller will cause the audio memory to play back the contents of the audio storage location linked with the presently selected data storage location through a loud speaker. The audio signal that is played back is called a voice tag. (col.2, l.14-30)

The software allows for scrolling through the data storage locations. If the key "▾" was pressed, the controller increments a pointer from the presently selected data storage location to the next higher data storage location. If on the other hand, the "▴" key is pressed, the controller decrements the data storage locations from the presently selected location to the next lower location. In either event, whether the data location pointer was incremented or decremented, the control goes to step 442 where the data is recalled from the selected data storage register and the

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audio tag in the audio storage location linked with the selected data storage location is played. If there is not linked audio storage location, then there is no tag played. (col.13 ,l.22-35)

Kowalski

Kowalski discloses a cellular telephone controller that provides synthesized voice feedback for directory number confirmation, call status and cellular telephone feature, option and service selection (abstract). The controller comprises a phone switch, a select switch, a scroll-up switch and a scroll-down switch.

Activation of one of the scroll switches steps a location counter through locations zero and ten of the telephone number directory in the cellular telephone and also voices the location number or name such as for example "ONE" or "HOME" (col.2, l.7-14 and col.4, l.45-50). Activation of the select switch reads out the telephone number from the memory location indicated by the location counter and also voices the digits or name for the read-out telephone number (col.2, l.14-18).

Itoh

Itoh relates to a voice output apparatus and a method thereof in which the leading portion of each of a plurality of sentences included in text data is converted to a voice output at a speed at which the data content is understandable to a user while converting other portions to a voice output at a faster speed to enable the user listening to the voice output to quickly grasp the content of a sentence with a feel of quickly reading the sentence. (col.1, l.5-12)
Itoh pertains to reading text data at different speeds. Itoh discloses a computer executing a voice output processing software for reading aloud text data in HTML data for outputting. The text may be read at in normal mode at a normal speed (key 180), in a fast mode at a speed faster than normal or in a skipping mode

Arguments

Ohashi discloses scrolling through data storage locations using the " ▼ " and " ▲ " keys and each data storage locations is displayed in turn. When the tag mode is turned on and if there is a voice storage location storing an audio tag linked to the data storage location, the voice tag is

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played. Ohashi discloses scrolling and displaying in turn the data storage locations when scrolled through. When a data storage location is navigated through, an audio tag is conditionally played: an audio tag is played only for data storage locations that link to an audio storage location. Ohashi only discloses displaying the data storage location for data storage locations that do not link to respective audio storage locations. Ohashi neither discloses nor suggests playing an audio file or sound about the data storage locations that do not link to audio storage locations while the user scrolls through the data storage locations. Thus, Ohashi neither discloses nor suggests the claim limitation of providing auditory feedback information to the user about each respective selectable one of the options while the user is navigating.

In addition, Ohashi neither suggests nor discloses a feedback output providing a first type of auditory feedback when the user is navigating at a first speed, and a second type of auditory feedback when the user is navigating at a second speed. Indeed, Ohashi only discloses pressing the " ▼ " and " ▲ " keys to scroll through the data storage locations without disclosing or suggesting a speed at which the keys are pressed or at which the data storage locations are being scrolled through.

Thus, Ohashi neither suggests nor discloses the claim limitation of providing a first type of auditory feedback information about each respective selectable one of the options when the user is navigating at a first speed, and a second type of auditory feedback information about each respective selectable one of the options when the user is navigating at a second different speed.

Itoh relates to reading text data aloud whereas the invention teaches enabling a user to navigate in a set of selectable options. In a normal mode, Itoh enables outputting a voice waveform data indicating a voice waveform of a normal speed. In a fast feed mode, Itoh enables outputting voice waveform data at a speed which is faster than the normal speed. In both modes, Itoh discloses providing voice waveforms, which are of the same type of auditory feedbacks, although they are different feedback information. Indeed, although one is a normal voice waveform and the other one is a fast voice waveform, both are voice waveforms. As explained in the specification as filed, different types of auditory feedback are for example clicks or recorded user-spoken words.

Thus, Itoh neither suggests nor discloses the claim limitation of providing a first type of auditory feedback information about each respective selectable one of the options when the user

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is navigating at a first speed, and providing a second different type of auditory feedback information about each respective selectable one of the options when the user is navigating at a second different speed.

Kowalski neither suggests nor discloses the claim limitation of a feedback output providing a first type of auditory feedback when the user is navigating at a first speed, and a second different type of auditory feedback when the user is navigating at a second different speed.

In the Office Action mailed May 22, 2002, the Examiner is quoted as follows: "Ohashi discusses the merits of not using voice synthesis and his subsequent use of audio filed and the device being operable in a hands-free manner, hence once skilled in the art could modify Ohashi to include a play out feature with multiple speeds that utilized audio files instead of voice synthesis".

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no incentive or suggestion in Ohashi to modify its teaching to include a play out feature with multiple speeds as disclosed in Itoh. Ohashi does not disclose a scrolling speed and thus, does not give any suggestion or incentive to enable different speeds and does not give any incentive or suggestion to provide a first and a second different type of auditory feedback information for a respective first and second navigating speeds. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that there is not incentive in Ohashi to use the teaching of Itoh to modify its own teaching. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner is using hindsight.

Neither Ohashi, Kowalski or Itoh discloses, alone or in combination, an auditory feedback providing a first type of auditory feedback information about each respective selectable one of the options when the user navigates at a first speed and providing a second different type of auditory feedback information about each respective selectable one of the options when the user navigates at a second speed. Thus, the Examiner has failed to show a prima facie case of obviousness and it is respectfully requested that the rejections of Claims 1-9, 11, 15-19, 21, 23, 24 and 26 under 35USC103(a) be withdrawn.

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It is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1 and 15 are patentable over Ohashi, Itoh and Kowalski. It is also respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 2-4, 6, 7, 9-14, 16-17 and 19-26 are patentable over Ohashi, Itoh and Kowalski at least based on their dependencies.

Applicants respectfully submit that they have answered all issues raised by the Examiner and that the application is accordingly in condition for allowance. Such allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees other than the issue fee to deposit account 14-1270.

Please credit any overpayments to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 22, 2002

By_____

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Limited Recognition under 37 C.F.R 10.9(b)
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APPENDIX A

Version with Markings
to Show Changes Made to the Claims

The following are marked up versions of amended Claims 1 and 15:

1.(THRICE AMENDED)   An information processing device comprising a user-interface for enabling a user to interact with the device, the device comprising:

- a navigating input for enabling the user to navigate in a set of options;
- a memory enabling the user to store an audio file representative of a specific one of the options;
- a feedback output to provide [respective auditory feedback information to the user about a respective selectable one of the options while the user is navigating, the feedback output providing] a first type of auditory feedback <u>information to the user about each respective selectable one of the options, the first type of auditory feedback</u> comprising a play out of the audio file when the user is navigating at a first speed, and <u>to provide</u> a second <u>different</u> type of auditory feedback <u>information to the user about each respective selectable one of the options</u> when the user is navigating at a second different speed;
- a validating input to enable the user to select the current option based on the <u>provided</u> feedback <u>information</u>.

15.(THRICE AMENDED)   A method of enabling a user to interact with an information processing device, the method comprising:

- enabling the user to navigate among a set of options;
- enabling the user to store an audio file representative of a specific one of the options;
- [providing respective auditory feedback information to the user about a respective
- selectable one of the options while the user is navigating and] providing a first type of auditory feedback information <u>to the user about each respective selectable one of the options, the first type of auditory feedback</u> comprising a play out of the audio file

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when the user is navigating at a first speed and providing a second <u>different</u> type of
auditory feedback information <u>to the user about each respective selectable one of the
options</u> when the user is navigating at a second different speed; and

-   enabling the user to validate a current one of the options based on the <u>provided</u>
    feedback <u>information</u> for accessing the selectable one of the options.

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